



United States Department
of Agriculture

5975 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278

Phone: 317.290.3100
TDD: 317.290.3343
Fax: 317.290.3095
www.rurdev.usda.gov/in/index.html

News Release

Contact: Kelly M. Barmann

USDA FUNDING HELPS WESTERN RUSH EXPAND SEWER SYSTEM

Indianapolis (#03-06; 1-14-2003): Officials gathered today in Indianapolis to finalize the details of a financing package for phase two of an important infrastructure expansion project for Rush county.

USDA Rural Development announced that it is providing Western Rush County Regional Water and Sewer District a \$720,000 low interest loan and a \$830,000 grant for this important expansion project. The Indiana Department of Commerce has also made a \$500,000 grant for this project.

Phase two of this expansion project consists of building gravity sewer collection systems to serve the towns of Homer and Minilla plus a force main transmission line from Minilla to the treatment plant at Homer. Nearly 200 users will benefit by this latest expansion.

The first phase of this expansion project in 2001 was also supported by USDA Rural Development through a \$2,560,000 grant and a low interest loan of \$325,000 to help fund the construction of a wastewater collection and treatment system for the town of Arlington and related improvements in the area. The first phase of the Western Rush expansion also received a \$575,000 grant from the Build Indiana Fund.

Gregg Delp, USDA Rural Development Community Programs Director, said, "We applaud the efforts of the utility and the communities in western Rush county for their commitment to the future. Infrastructure projects like this one are critical to the physical and economic health of rural Indiana."

Over \$70 million of funding from USDA Rural Development brought water and wastewater collection and treatment services to Hoosiers around the state last year.

Single family home loans, rural rental housing, water and waste water facility funding, business and industry loans, and community facility loans and grants are financial resources available from USDA Rural Development. Questions concerning USDA Rural Development services in this area can be directed to USDA Rural Development, 1110 Amos Road, Suite A, Shelbyville, IN 46176-2806; phone 317-392-1394, extension 4.

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